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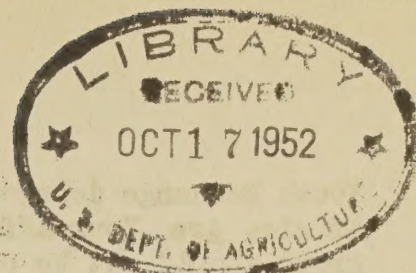
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FAE EXPERIMENTAL FILM DISCUSSION PROJECT



Under this project, the Fund for Adult Education has developed two series of film discussion programs. Each program is built around a series of motion pictures. Prepared for use with each movie are a number of materials designed to implement discussion of the motion-picture subject. These materials consist of a short essay for premeeting reading, a discussion guide with appropriate questions and meeting suggestions, and a postmeeting evaluation form for the discussion leaders.

The first series, titled "Great Men - Great Issues," consists of nine programs. Each is on one or two of the great men in the early history of the United States, and brings out the great issues that were faced and resolved by these men--issues that thereby became foundation stones in our American heritage. It appears to be a most stimulating and timely series, of real value in citizenship training.

The second series, titled "World Affairs Are Your Affairs," offers a like number of programs aimed at international understanding. Most of the programs in this series are on individual countries, such as China, Japan, Iran, Yugoslavia, and so forth. One is on world trade and one is on community action to promote international understanding.

SOME OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO THE SELECTION OF
YMW GROUPS FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Regularly organized Young Men and Women's groups do not appear to be appropriate for this experiment for several reasons:

1. Most groups plan their programs several months in advance and have their plans made for the coming fall and winter seasons.
2. Most groups meet monthly; but for the purpose of the experiment, it would be desirable for the group to meet at least every 2 weeks so that the series would not last too long.
3. The minimum time necessary to conduct a film discussion program is about 1 to 1½ hours. This is a little longer period than is usually devoted to an educational feature at a regular YMW group meeting.

It might be more appropriate, therefore, to think in terms of temporary special-interest groups for this purpose. They could be organized independently or as a part of the program of an existing YMW group, and meet on either county or community level. Perhaps 15 to 20 would be a minimum number of members for such a group. FAE's only specification has been that group members must be out-of-school young people under 30 years of age.

Possibly an agent would know of a serious-minded young leader who could organize and follow through with such a group. A previous International Farm

Youth Exchange delegate might be an ideal leader for a group trying the World Affairs Are Your Affairs series. The possibilities of a young married couples' group should not be overlooked.

Under the normal program, FAE proposes to make a nominal charge for rental of the motion-picture film and a small charge for the discussion materials. It has therefore been suggested that the effect of these charges might be measured, by having five of the YMW groups pay full costs, five pay half costs, and five have the materials furnished free of charge. Such details, however, can be worked out later.

FOUR OBSERVATIONS RELATIVE TO THE SETTING OF THE GROUPS FOR THE PROPOSED EXPERIMENT

Generally organized Young Men and Women's groups do not appear to be suitable for this experiment for several reasons:

1. Most groups plan their program several months in advance and have their plans made for the coming fall and winter seasons.
2. Most groups meet monthly; but for the purpose of the experiment, it would be desirable for the group to meet at least every 2 weeks so that the series would not last too long.
3. The minimum time necessary to conduct a film discussion program is about 1 to 1 1/2 hours. This is a little longer period than is usually devoted to an educational feature at a regular YMW group meeting.

It might be more appropriate, therefore, to think in terms of temporary special-interest groups for this purpose. They could be organized independently as a part of the program of an existing YMW group, and meet on either weekly or bi-weekly basis. Perhaps 15 to 20 would be a minimum number of members for such a group. YMW's only specification has been that group members must be out-of-school young people under 30 years of age.

Probably an agent would find one of a serious-minded young leader who could organize and follow through with such a group. A previous International Film

